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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 296202

21
ORIGIN NEA-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011
DRAFTED BY:NEA:ARN:SNHOWELL
APPROVED BY:NEA:ARN:MDRAPER
---------- 129090
R 040424Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM EC BRUSSELS DATED DECEMBER 1,
1976 SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ALL EC CAPITALS, AMMAN,
CAIRO, DAMASCUS, TEL AVIV, OECD PARIS, GENEVA IS
REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 11779

PLEASE PASS BEIRUT IF WARRANTED.

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, EEC, LE
SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION PROPOSES EMERGENCY AID TO LEBANON

REF: EC BRUSSELS 11541

1. COMMISSION OFFICIALS INFORM US THAT THE COMMISSION
DECIDED ON DECEMBER 1 TO RECOMMEND TO THE EC COUNCIL AN
EMERGENCY AID PROGRAM FOR LEBANON. AS INDICATED IN REFTEL,
LEBANESE AUTHORITIES HAVE REQUESTED EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO
ASSIST WITH REFUGEE RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION OF BEIRUT.
COMMISSION OFFICIALS HAVE ALSO PARTICIPATED IN RECENT
MEETINGS IN GENEVA AND ROME TO CONSIDER AN INTERNATIONAL
RELIEF EFFORT FOR LEBANON. THE SAY THAT THE ROME
MEETING AGREED TO AN IMMEDIATE AMOUNT OF AID FOR LEBANON
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AND THE COMMISSION PROPOSAL WILL COVER THE GAP WHICH

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OTHER DONORS HAD NOT AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS THE COMMISSION PROPOSAL:
A. CASH CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS OF 400,000 U.A. (ABOUT $440,000) FOR PURCHASE OF EMERGENCY SUPPLIES SUCH AS MEDICINES, BLANKETS AND CLOTHING; AND
B. FOODSTUFFS -45,050 MT OF WHEAT; 2,840 MT OF BUTTER-OIL; AND 4,120 MT OF VITAMINIZED SKIMMED MILK POWDER (SMP). THE FOLLOWING WILL BE DISTRIBUTED THROUGH THE IRC: 7,550 MT OF WHEAT; 1,600 MT OF BUTTEROIL; AND 800 MT OF SMP. THROUGH THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM: 12,500 MT OF WHEAT; 470 MT OF SMP; AND THROUGH CARITAS: 575 BT OF SMP. THE EC WILL SHIP THE REMAINING BALANCES OF THESE FOOD STUFFS DIRECTLY TO LEBANON ONCE IT IS DETER-MINED THAT THE GOL CAN HANDLE THE SHIPMENTS AND IT NEEDS THEM. COMMISSION OFFICIALS SAY THAT THIS AID, ALONG WITH OTHER DONORS' CONTRIBUTIONS, SHOULD MEET LEBANON'S ESTIMATED RELIEF NEEDS THROUGH MARCH 31, 1977.

3. COMMISSION OFFICIALS HAVE DISCUSSED THIS PROPOSAL WITH MEMBER STATE OFFICIALS; THEY EXPECT THE COUNCIL TO ACT EXPEDITIOUSLY ON THE PROPOSAL. HINTON UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RELIEF (ASSISTANCE)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE296202
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA:ARN:SNHOWELL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760449-0568
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761271/aaaacjhk.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 EC BRUSSELS 11541
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <06 APR 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC COMMISSION PROPOSES EMERGENCY AID TO LEBANON
TAGS: EAID, LE, EEC
To: BEIRUT
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006